

MINNESOTA CORN AND SOYBEAN FORECAST DOWN FROM LAST MONTH

CORN production is forecast at 951 million bushels, down 38.1 million bushels from September 1 and down 101 million bushels from the 2002 record year, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. The October 1 yield is forecast at 143.0 bushels per acre, down 8 bushels from September 1, and down 14 bushels from the record yield last year. Revised planted acreage is 7.2 million acres and harvested acreage for grain is 6.65 million acres.

SOYBEAN production for Minnesota is forecast at 236.8 million bushels, down 40.7 million bushels from the September 1 forecast and down 72.1 million bushels from the record production in 2002. Based on October 1 conditions, the yield is forecast at 32.0 bushels per acre, down 5.0 bushels per acre from September 1 and down 11.5 bushels from the record yield in 2002. Revised planted acreage is 7.5 million acres and harvested acreage is 7.4 million acres.

The **SUGARBEET** crop is estimated at 9.25 million tons, down 4% from September 1 but up 5% from 2002. Harvested acres are 465,000, unchanged from last month. Yield is estimated at 19.9 tons per acre, down 0.9 ton per acre from September 1, but up 1.3 tons per acre from last year.

This year's **DRY BEAN** production is estimated at 2.08 million hundredweight, down 16% from last year. Yield is forecast at 1,600 pounds per acre, down 50 pounds per acre from last year.

ALL SUNFLOWER production is forecast at 119 million pounds, up 39% from 2002. Yield is forecast at 1,405 pounds per acre compared to 1,345 pounds per acre in 2002. Planted acres are 90,000 while harvested acres are 85,000.

U.S. HIGHLIGHTS

CORN production is forecast at 10.2 billion bushels, up 3% from last month and 13% above 2002. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 142.2 bushels per acre, up 3.7 bushels from September and up 12.2 bushels from last year. If realized, both production and yield would be the largest ever. Both records were set in 1994 when production was estimated at 10.1 billion bushels and the yield was 138.6 bushels per acre. Yields turned out to be higher than expected across much of the Corn Belt and central Great Plains as farmers began to harvest their crops. Based on Farm Service Agency administrative information, acreage updates were made in several States and farmers now expect to harvest 71.8 million acres of corn for grain, down 50,000 acres from September but up 4% from 2002.

SOYBEAN production is forecast at 2.47 billion bushels, down 7% from the September forecast and 10% below 2002. If realized, this would be the lowest production since 1996. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 34.0 bushels per acre, down 2.4 bushels from September and down 4.0 bushels from 2002. With harvest underway, yields are lower than last month in the Corn Belt and northern Great Plains reflecting the impact of the hot, dry conditions in August and continued mostly dry weather during September. Based on Farm Service Agency administrative information, acreage updates were made in several States and now area planted is estimated at 73.6 million acres, down 68,000 acres from the August estimate. Area for harvest is forecast at 72.5 million acres, down 88,000 acres from September, but up fractionally from the 2002 acreage.

MINNESOTA & U.S. HARVESTED ACRES, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

COMMODITY	2002 HARVESTED ACRES (000)	2003 HARVESTED ACRES (000)	2002 YIELD	2003 YIELD	2002 PRODUCTION (000)	2003 PRODUCTION (000)
MINNESOTA						
CORN (Bu)	6,700	6,650	157.0	143.0	1,051,900	950,950
SOYBEANS (Bu)	7,100	7,400	43.5	32.0	308,850	236,800
SUGARBEETS (Ton)	476	465	18.6	19.9	8,854	9,254
DRY BEANS 1/	150	130	1,650	1,600	2,475	2,080
SUNFLOWERS (Lb)	64	85	1,345	1,405	86,050	119,425
CANOLA (Lb)	45	57	850	1,900	38,250	108,300
ALFALFA HAY (Ton)	1,600	1,450	3.30	2.90	5,280	4,205
OTHER HAY (Ton)	700	750	1.90	1.70	1,330	1,275
UNITED STATES						
CORN (Bu)	69,313	71,765	130.0	142.2	9,007,659	10,207,141
SOYBEANS (Bu)	72,437	72,538	38.0	34.0	2,749,340	2,468,390
SUGARBEETS (Ton)	1,361	1,348	20.4	22.2	27,718	29,882
DRY BEANS 1/	1,727	1,418	1,736	1,665	29,974	23,603
SUNFLOWERS (Lb)	2,180	2,274	1,142	1,152	2,489,606	2,619,497
CANOLA (Lb)	1,275	1,085	1,218	1,425	1,552,520	1,545,709
ALFALFA HAY (Ton)	23,135	23,541	3.19	3.34	73,824	78,523
OTHER HAY (Ton)	41,362	40,838	1.86	2.01	77,138	82,183

1/ Yield in lb: production in cwt.